

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03135 212354Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 212123Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8883

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ANKARA 3135

EXDIS

FROM HARTMAN

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER

1. BILL MACOMBER AND I, TOGETHER WITH BILL EAGLETON, MET FOR A TOTAL OF FOUR HOURS TODAY WITH CAGLAYANGIL (A FULL REPORT FOLLOWS IN SEPTEL). CAGLAYANGIL HEARD ME OUT ON THE CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION AND SEEMED TO RECOGNIZE WHY THE PROCESS HAD BEEN SLOWED BY THE CONGRESSIONAL FOCUS ON VIETNAM. AT THE SAME TIME HE EMPHASIZED THAT VIETNAM DEVELOPMENTS MADE IT ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT THAT CONGRESS ACT PROMPTLY. DESPITE MY EFFORTS NOT TO LINK PROGRESS ON NEGOTIATIONS (SOME VISIBLE SIGN OF MOVEMENT, I SAID), CAGLAYANGIL TOOK SAME LINE DEMIREL HAD TAKEN WITH US LAST MONTH, THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA SHOULD PROCEED NORMALLY AND THERE WOULD BE NO CONCESSIONS GIVEN IN ADVANCE.

2. HE EXPLAINED IN SOME DETAIL THE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES FACED BY THE COALITION AND WHY HE COULD NOT JUSTIFY IMMEDIATE TURKISH CONCESSIONS TO FACILITATE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE UPSHOT OF THIS DISCUSSION WAS A CLEAR MESSAGE THAT THE DENKTASH-CLERIDES TALKS SHOULD PROCEED; THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO DIRECT TALKS WITH GREECE TO SETTLE ALL ISSUES; AND THAT THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION SHOULD CONVINCE CONGRESS TO CHANGE ITS VIEW. HIS

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SCENARIO FOR GREEK-TURKISH TALKS WAS: FIRST, A REALISTIC AND

WORKMANLIKE NEGOTIATION AT VIENNA; SECOND, PREPARATION AT A HIGH OFFICIAL LEVEL, BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY; THEN A MEETING BETWEEN HIMSELF AND BITSIOS; AND FINALLY A MEETING BETWEEN DEMIREL AND CARAMANLIS AT THE NATO SUMMIT. ESENBEL WILL REQUEST A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT ON HIS RETURN NEXT WEEK AND HE WILL WISH TO DISCUSS A MEETING BETWEEN DEMIREL AND THE PRESIDENT IN BRUSSELS. HE IMPLIED THAT WE MIGHT PLAY A HELPFUL ROLE IN THE GREEK-TURK DISCUSSIONS IN BRUSSELS. HE CONCLUDED THAT WE SHOULD USE AGREEMENT ON THIS KIND OF SCENARIO AS A SPUR TO CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

3. AT VARIOUS TIMES, I BROUGHT UP OUR CONCERNS ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AEGEAN. I STRESSED OUR CONCLUSION THAT THERE WAS NO REASON THAT WE COULD SEE WHY THESE MATTERS COULD NOT BE SETTLED AMICABLY. CAGLAYANGIL INCLUDED THE AEGEAN AS A PRIME PROBLEM TO BE DEALT WITH BILATERALLY. HE EXPRESSED GREAT RESPECT FOR CARAMANLIS BUT STRESSED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO DEAL FRANKLY AND DIRECTLY WITH TURKEY ON THESE ISSUES. HE RECALLED THE POSITION WHICH HE HIMSELF ADOPTED IN 1967 (AT SOME POLITICAL COST) TO DEFUSE THE CYPRUS SITUATION BY WORKING THROUGH CYRUS VANCE WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY NEGOTIATING DIRECTLY WITH THE GREEKS.

4. WHILE NO SPECIFIC ACTION AGAINST OUR FACILITIES WAS MENTIONED AND HE LATER TURNED ASIDE A PRESS QUESTION ON THIS SUBJECT, THERE WAS MUCH STRESS ON THE INABILITY TO HOLD TURKISH OPINION IN FAVOR OF A CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S. HE SAID THAT THE VIETNAM SITUATION HEIGHTENED CONCERN IN TURKEY ON THE VALUE OF MAINTAINING US TIES.

5. TOMORROW WE SEE ECEVIT AND DEMIREL. I SEE NO POINT IN PRESSING THE FRAMEWORK IDEA SINCE CAGLAYANGIL REJECTED THAT APPROACH. HE WOULD GO NO FURTHER THAN SAYING THEY ARE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE ON THE LINE IN CYPRUS. HE ALSO HINTED THAT DENKTASH MIGHT REVIVE THE AIRPORT AND PORT OF FAMAGUSTA PROPOSALS TO BETTER THE ATMOSPHERE BY SOME EARLY AGREEMENT IN VIENNA.

6. LAST COMMENT MADE BY CAGLAYANGIL PERHAPS BEST ILLUSTRATES HIS APPROACH. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER TURKISH COALITION WOULD GO ALONG WITH NEGOTIATED SOLUTION, HE SAID HE WOULD BE THE COOK AND PREPARE THIS MEAL. HE WOULD THEN
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PRESENT IT TO THE JUSTICE PARTY PARTNERS FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION. WITH THEIR APPROVAL HE WOULD THEN OBTAIN RPP ASSENT. HE STRESSED THAT BOTH GREEK AND TURK GOVERNMENTS HAVE POLITICAL PROBLEMS AND COMPROMISES MUST TAKE ACCOUNT OF THESE ON BOTH SIDES.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA03135
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750139-0917
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750430/aaaabbse.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY, US, (MACOMBER, WILLIAM B), (CAGLAYANGIL, IHSAN SABRI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006